

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAGU 03583 291756Z  
ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W  
-----006453 291821Z /43  
P 291726Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3919

UNCLAS MANAGUA 3583

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: CDES, NI (CAMPBELL, ROBERT)  
SUBJECT: DISPOSITION OF EFFECTS

REF: (A) MANAGUA 3495; (B) STATE 176241

1. CONSUL VISITED ROBERT CAMPBELL'S RESIDENCE IN MANAGUA ON JULY 25 AT THE REQUEST OF BROTHER-IN-LAW WILLIAM K. WITTE WHO TELEPHONED EMBASSY ON JULY 22 TO ASK THAT CONSUL OBTAIN INFORMATCBN FROM CAMPBELL'S PERSONAL PAPERS AS TO NAMES OF CAMPBELL'S LAWYERS. CONSUL ACCOMPANIED THEODORE E. WILDE, SENIOR ASSOCIATE OF ROBERT R. NATHAN, WHO WAS DESIGNATED BY FIRM TO CONTINUE CAMPBELL'S TOURISM STUDY AND TO ATTEND TO CAMPBELL'S PERSONAL AFFAIRS INCLUDING PAYMENT OF BILLS, RENT, UTILITIES AND TO FREEZE HIS CHECKING ACCOUNT. AT NO TIME HAS AN INVENTORY BEEN REQUESTED TO CONOFF BY EITHER FAMILY OR FIRM. FURTHERMORE CONOFF EXPLAINED CLEARLY TO NOK AND WILDE THAT EMBASSY COULD NOT TAKE POSSESSION OF EFFECTS UNTIL A PRESUMPTIVE DEATH REPORT IS ISSUED.

2. MR. WILDE ON BEHALF OF FIRM DID REQUEST EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE IN SAFEGUARDING CAMPBELL'S PROPERTY. IN VIEW OF CIRCUMSTANCES, FOLLOWING ARRANGMENT WAS AGREED UPON: CAMPBELL'S HOUSE IS CURRENTLY UNDER 24 HOUR GUARD BY WATCHMAN PAID BY FIRM THROUGH MONTH OF AUGUST; GUARD HAS RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS TO PERMIT ENTRY ONLY TO WILDE OR CONOFF. GUARD HAS ACCESS TO ROOMS AND POSSESSIONS INSIDE HOUSE YET HE IS BELIEVED TO BE REPUTABLE AND HAS BEEN UNDER MR. CAMPBELL'S EMPLOYMENT FOR SOME TIME.

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3. STATE REFTTEL POSES QUESTIONS REGARDING LOCAL REPORT FROM AUTHORITIES ON WHICH TO BASE PRESUMPTIVE DEATH REPORT. EMBASSY HAD NOT SOUGHT LOCAL INVESTIGATIVE REPORT AS IT HAD NOT YET BEEN MADE CLEAR IF FAMILY THOUGHT SUFFICIENT TIME HAD ELAPSED SINCE CAMPBELL'S DISAPPEARANCE TO CONSIDER IT PERMANENT. GIVEN STATE'S INSTRUCTIONS EMBASSY WILL PROCEED TO OBTAIN LOCAL INVESTIGATIVE REPORT.

4. DURING JULY 22 TELEPHONE CONVERSATION CONOFF TOLD WITTE FOLLOWING: 1) CAMPBELL'S FIRST DIVORCE OF 13 APRIL 1970 WAS HANDLED BY LAWYER RICHARD G. WALL OF 685 WEST END AVE., N.Y., N.Y. 10025 (TEL. 212-866-5232), 2) SECOND DIVORCE WAS EFFECTED IN EL SALVADOR 23 MARCH 1977 AND HANDLED BY DR. MANUEL LAINEX MENDEZ, PASAJE SENDA FLORIDA NO. 124, COLONIA ESCALON, SAN SALVADOR, EL SALVADOR.

5. DURING CONVERSATION WITTE INQUIRED IF CONOFF HAD SEEN WILL AMONG CAMPBELL'S PERSONAL PAPERS. ANSWER NEGATIVE ALTHOUGH SEARCH DID NOT INCLUDE ALL OF CAMPBELL'S BELONGINGS AS CONOFF DID NOT VISIT HOUSE WITH PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING INVENTORY. WITTE ALSO INQUIRED OF POSSIBLE EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN DISPOSING OF EFFECTS. WITTE WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN KNOWING WHETHER EMBASSY COULD ASSIST IN SALED OF SOME OF CAMPBELL'S EFFECTS SUCH AS APPLIANCES AND FURNITURE. IT IS EMBASSY'S UNDERSTANDING THAT WITTE PLANS TO COME TO NICARAGUA WITH POWER OF ATTORNEY FROM CAMPBELL'S MOTHER TO TAKE POSSESSION OF CAMPBELL'S PROPERTY. SALE AS SUCH WOULD TAKE PLACE AFTER WITTE'S VISIT. POST ASSUMES ONCE WITTE HAS TAKEN POSSESSION OF EFFECTS EMBASSY WOULD NOT BE REQUIRED TO ASSIST FURTHER WITH THEIR DISPOSITION. REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE ON THIS POINT.  
RUBENSTEIN

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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